

**“The most valuable thing you can make is a mistake – you can’t learn anything from being perfect.”**

**- Adam Osborne**  
*(Innovator of first PC)*



# Agenda for today

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- Quick Recap
- Understanding hardware
  - Microcontroller v/s microprocessors
  - What look for while choosing an MCU development board
  - Details of ESP8266 and Node-MCU
- Understanding software
  - Python and Micropython
  - IDEs for programming ESP devices
  - Using Wokwi - a hardware simulator
- Getting started with ESP8266 and Micropython using Wokwi
  - Blink an LED
- Daily challenge
- Prized challenges

# Hardware

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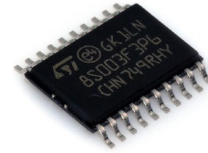
The brain of every device

# Microcontrollers v/s Microprocessors



## Microprocessors

1. Have all the required stuff (RAM, Storage, etc.) in a single chip
2. They are expensive
3. Meant for resource intensive tasks, like: Video playing, Internet browsing or anything that we do on our computers



## Microcontrollers

1. Have all the required stuff (RAM, Storage, etc.) in a single chip
2. Very cheap in cost
3. Meant for the tasks where we don't need heavy resources, like; Running a washing machine, monitoring a Toaster, Automatics doors, switches, etc

# SBCs v/s MCU Dev-boards



## Single board computer (SBC)

1. This is based on microprocessors
2. Good for projects requiring heavy computing resources; like; setting up a server, IoT gateway, Running AI models, etc.



## Microcontrollers Dev-boards

1. This is based on microcontroller
2. Good for projects requiring low computing resources; like; home automation, Industrial monitoring devices, etc.

# What to look for in a MCU Dev board

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- Processing power (Cores, Frequency)
  - Camera
  - Audio
  - ADC - Analog to Digital (ADC resolution - 8 Bit, 10Bit, 12 Bit, 24 Bit)
  - Etc.
- Onboard RAM and storage
- Special purpose memory (Like PSRAM if you want to process images and videos)
- Peripherals
  - No. of GPIOs - General purpose input output
  - No. of SerCOMs - Serial communication
  - USB support
  - OTG support
  - Display
- Onboard Wireless Connectivity - WiFi, Bluetooth
- Size of the board
- On board power supply, etc.

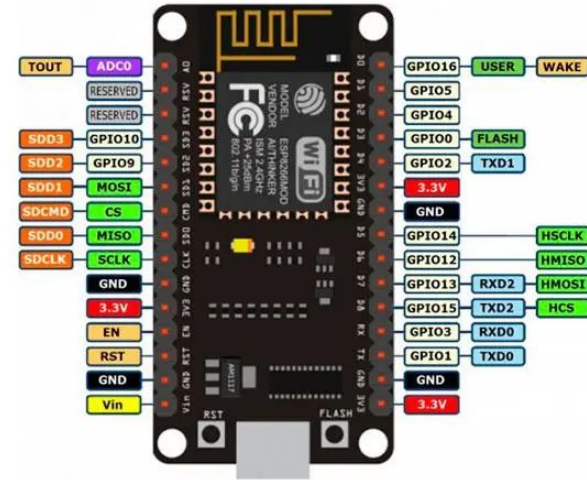
# Some Popular MCU Dev boards

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- Arduino (<https://www.arduino.cc/en/hardware> )
- ESP boards (<https://www.espressif.com/en/products/devkits> )
- RP2040 based boards (<https://www.raspberrypi.com/products/rp2040/> )
- And Many more...

# ESP8266 (Microcontroller)

1. Tensilica L106 32-bit RISC processor, max clock speed of 160 MHz.
2. 50 kB RAM, 1 MB Flash Memory
3. 802.11 n support (2.4 GHz), up to 72.2 Mbps
4. Support Infrastructure BSS Station mode/SoftAP mode/Promiscuous mode
5. 17 GPIO pins
6. SPI, I2C, UART, I2S, PWM, IR Remote, 10 bit ADC





# Software

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The stuff that goes in brain

# Why Python

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- Easy to learn
- Has an active, supportive community
- Hundreds of Python Libraries and Frameworks
- Big data, Machine Learning and Cloud Computing
- Flexible



# Basics of Python Language

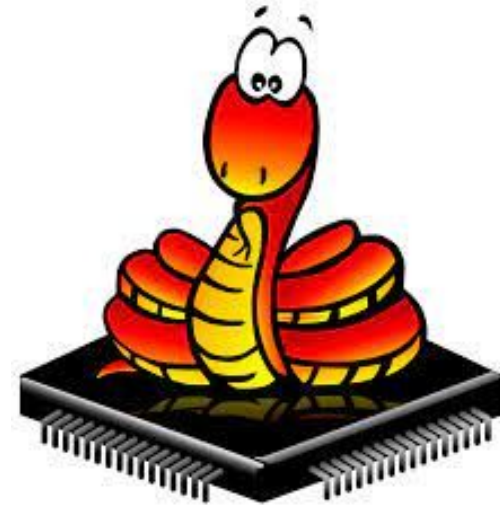
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- Basic syntax
- Use of tabs
- Data Types
- Operators
- Conditionals (If- else)
- Loops (For - While)
- Try -except
- Functions
- Python inbuilt modules
  - JSON
  - time
  - ...

# Micropython

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1. Program just like the standard Python
2. Packages to control various hardware peripherals
3. Supports many standard python packages
4. Can run on a resource constrained device
5. Easy to setup and get started



# Getting started with Wokwi

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- Good to get started with programming Microcontroller based development boards like; Arduino, raspberry pi pico, ESP8266/32, etc.
- Get feel of real hardware without even touching one
- Plenty of sensors, actuators, and other peripherals to try out different projects



[www.wokwi.com](https://www.wokwi.com)

# Write your first Micropython program

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```
from machine import Pin
```

```
p0 = Pin(2, Pin.OUT)    # create output pin on GPIO0
```

```
while 1:
```

```
    p0.on()              # set pin to "on" (high) level
```

# Flashing uPython on ESP8266

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[micropython on esp8266](#)

# Daily Challenge

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## **Problem Statement:**

Write a program to interface RGB LED with ESP8266 and generate different colors.

## **Hints:**

- Every pin on RGB LED will require a different GPI
- There is a function with name “value” in machine module that can be used for changing intensity of individual colors



# Prized Challenge 1

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## **Problem statement:**

Build a device to control user interface of a windows system using different sensors with ESP8266

## **Constraints:**

- The device should communicate wirelessly with the computer
- You can use any sensor of your choice. However, I recommend using 2 Ultrasonic sensors to implements various gestures.
- Use python for firmware as well as the software for controlling features on Windows

## **Resources required:**

- Dev board and sensors
- Python modules
  - PyAutoGUI
  - Networking modules: urequests, pahomqtt, etc.



*Thank you*



## GROUP VENTURES

